

THE INTERNATIONAL STAFFORD MATCH

By Audrey Hubery



I have been asked to write a report on the BEST EVER WEEK END OF THE STAFFORDSHIRE BULL TERRIER CALENDAR . What a fabulous get together of 13 - yes 13 countries to take part in FUN & GAMES. Winning is NOT the aim although it is a fantastic feeling. It is about bringing countries together with their teams of Staffords .

The International Match was on the 8/10/16 Venue Van Der Valk Hotel Tiel. This was a brand new venue which opened its doors to The Dutch Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club weekend of activities. I would like to thank the hotel staff for their hospitality. This event has been going for 4 yrs and started off with 7 countries. WOW look at it now. I want to thank everyone on behalf of team U.K and supporters for giving us a great weekend

The 3 judges for the MATCH were Jodie Sing [Australia] Dayna Lemke [U.S.A.] & Jaci Mc Lauchlan [U.K.]

The countries taking part were CZ. DK. FR. GER. IT. NL.NO.POL. RO. SLO. SP. SW. & U.K. There were fabulous staffords in all of these countries The handlers, some wearing country colours, looked very smart . They sure have upped their game with presentation.

The Match began with an introduction by Martin van Aken { chairman } Then the music began with the introduction of all countries taking part with the collection of the countries' flag by team managers. I must say there was a tear in some eyes at this point.

The judging began at 10:15. With a team from all 13 countries, first being the class, dogs under 2 yrs. All 3 judges began their appraisal of all dogs and had to put their scores on their own score sheets. These were all totaled up at the end of every class.

Second was class Bitches under 2 yrs. Same procedure. Then there was a break to add scores on the big screen. NAIL Biting stuff. Team U.K. on top at this point.

Next class was dogs over 2 yrs. By now the whole room was electrifying with music and applause. Another break to add the scores on the screen.

Last class was bitches over 2 yrs. Then the total scores were added up, with precision I may add. A very long wait for results to be announced and the awards DRUM ROLL TEAM U.K. WON AGAIN! Three times team U.K has won the International Match Well done team UK. The Party began.

I would like, as team manager for team UK., to thank all the countries taking part, and their supporters for taking part in this fantastic event. You did your countries proud A huge thank you to the Dutch Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club for organising the whole weekend, and of course your Championship show the following day was a huge success also.

Thank you to all the judges for the outstanding 2 days of judging - Well done.
The next event for the International Match & Championship Show is 7/8 October 2017 . Make a note and hope there will be more teams taking part.

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International StaffordMatch 2016 - Points per Judge								
Pos	Country	J.S	Pos.	D.L	Pos.	J.M	Pos.	Overall
1	United Kingdom	185		133		220		538
2	Czech Republic	105		151		128		384
3	Netherlands	158		101		122		381
4	Germany	109		107		144		360
5	Sweden	133		125		94		352
6	Spain	116		110		113		339
7	Norway	111		115		106		332
8	Slovakia	97		102		109		308
9	Romania	111		105		88		304
10	France	72		116		96		284
11	Danmark	76		75		109		260
12	Italy	95		97		59		251
13	Poland	76		107		64		247
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